



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 500
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2405

JUL 25 1988

Ref: 8HWM-RI

Albert E. Whiteman, Area Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations
Rocky Flats Area Office
P.O. Box 928
Golden, Colorado 80402-0928

Dominick Sanchini, President
Rockwell International Corporation
Rocky Flats Plant
P.O. Box 464
Golden, Colorado 80402-0464

RE: Phase II Sampling Plans for the
903 Pad, Mound and East
Trenches Areas

Gentlemen:

EPA and CDH are in receipt of your July 5, 1988, submittal of sampling plans for the 903 Pad, Mound and East Trenches areas. Although we share your interest for expedited remediation at Rocky Flats, EPA and CDH are concerned that hasty site evaluation could lead to an improper remedial investigation of these significant areas.

EPA and CDH have not formally submitted comments on the final draft remedial investigations and the draft feasibility studies for the 881 Hillside area yet. Preliminary reviews of DOE's and Rockwell's March, 1988 submittal for Hillside 881 indicate that there are fundamental problems with the field investigations and analytical procedures. This has led to disputable conclusions in the FS for Hillside 881.

Due to these concerns, EPA suggests that DOE and Rockwell postpone any plans to begin immediate field investigations for the 903, Mound and East Trenches areas until these matters can be resolved. EPA will continue to move forward to finalize 881 comments with CDH to help resolve these problems. EPA and CDH are now in the process of reviewing the 903 Phase II sampling plans in order to minimize delays. To this end, EPA's technical contractors will be contacting your staff to arrange a site visit of the 903 Pad, Mound and East Trenches.

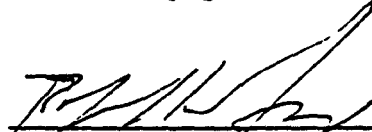
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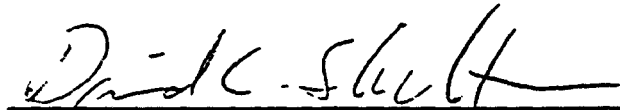
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If you should have any comments or questions regarding this matter please contact Mike Sattler at (303) 331-4844 or Nathaniel J. Miullo at (303) 293-1668.

Sincerely yours,



Robert L. Duprey, Director
Hazardous Waste Management Division



David C. Shelton, Director
Hazardous Waste and Waste
Management Division